



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise news, plus a full page from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.

Celebrity and RCI to test biofuel

ROYAL Caribbean Group has announced biofuel testing aboard Celebrity Cruises' *Celebrity Apex* and Royal Caribbean International's (RCI) *Symphony of the Seas* this European summer.

During the three-month test, *Apex* will depart from Rotterdam and *Symphony* will depart from Barcelona, using a biofuel blend which reduces the ships' carbon emissions.

The biofuel is produced by purifying renewable raw materials like oils and fats and combining it with fuel oil to create an alternative blend which is cleaner and more sustainable.

The landmark test will contribute critical data and research on the fuel's capabilities and supply chain infrastructure needed to further the industry's alternative fuel ambitions.

Royal Caribbean plans to continue increasing the use of alternative lower carbon fuel to meet the needs of its ships across the fleet.

NSW neglecting cruise's importance

EXCLUSIVE

CARNIVAL Corporation President Australia Marguerite Fitzgerald (pictured) does not believe the Government of New South Wales sincerely recognises the value of the cruise industry to the state.

Speaking exclusively to **CW** in the wake of the cancellation of the Yarra Bay terminal project (**CW** 29 May), Fitzgerald aired her "controversial" opinion the NSW government does not realise what a gem its cruise industry is.

"I'm not sure the full positive impact that cruise has on Sydney and New South Wales is fully understood," she suggested.

"They have been informed, I'm not sure they truly understand."

This belief, Fitzgerald said, stems from the contrast with the work being done in other states to grow their own cruise industry.

This leads her to doubt as to whether the importance of New South Wales' cruise industry, and the need to nurture it, is "fully embedded" within the state government.

"It feels like there's just a different level of conversation... there's almost a little bit of complacency in New South Wales," she said.

"In Queensland or WA we're talking about the future of the cruising industry, we're talking about how do we work together to build tourism.

"Queensland want to grow their tourism industry to \$44 billion by 2032, that's a huge growth target, so they're having conversations with us about where do we go, how do we continue to leverage cruise, where are there opportunities?"

However rather than supporting the abandoned Yarra Bay proposal, Fitzgerald said Carnival has always been an advocate for finding a solution to a third Sydney cruise berth in Port Jackson.

"Our position is that we always had a preference for a different solution," she said.

"That moment of sailing through the [Sydney] Heads and seeing the Harbour open up with the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge, that is something that we have always believed is fundamental to cruising, not just in and out of Sydney, but in and out of Australia.

"We have always been an advocate for finding a solution in Sydney Harbour."

Fitzgerald believes this should see stakeholders ponder where there could be and should be support infrastructure for the cruise industry.



"It becomes a more creative conversation about how do we best utilise the assets that are already in Sydney Harbour," she said.

"There needs to be recognition that there's a problem and let's get all the stakeholders to have a proper conversation about it.

"It's not going to be resolved by just having ports doing their very best, and the cruise companies jostling for position."

Fitzgerald said the cancellation of Yarra Bay also raised more questions around the difficulty of operating in Sydney and in Australia as a whole.

"There's a broader question here, which is, at what point does it become too hard and too costly to operate in Sydney, but also Australia more broadly?"

"Cruise ships are movable assets. You know, they don't have to be in Sydney Harbour."

More Time Off Ship More Activities

Antarctica 2024 | 2025



LEARN MORE

SAVE UP TO 25% OFF

*T&Cs Apply

Want cheap flights? Get in line

Click here to read

travelBulletin





NCLH NZ roadshow

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) will showcase its Regent Seven Seas Cruises, Oceania Cruises and Norwegian Cruise Line brands together in a special tri-brand series of Cruising Essentials events in New Zealand.

Taking place 13-29 Jun in nine different locations across New Zealand, the “fun-filled evening sessions” will run from 6pm and include beverages and canapes for attendees.

Co-hosts will be NCL BDM Megan Porter, Oceania BDM Gabby Oliver and Tracey Brennan, Regent Seven Seas Cruises BDM.

Registration is essential for the events taking place in Christchurch, Dunedin, Tauranga, Hamilton, Auckland (central and North Shore), Nelson, Wellington and Napier - sign up by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Virgin Voyages revamps *Resilient* season

VIRGIN Voyages’ cancellation of four trans-Tasman *Resilient Lady* cruises in 2024 (**CW** breaking news yesterday) is “due to market demand”, with the line saying it has “received significant feedback from our Sailors and travel advisors who shared some of the challenges the prior schedule presented with the various departure and arrival ports”.

Travel advisors were this morning updated with the revised program, which has seen the shortening of the originally planned South Pacific sailings “to make voyaging more accessible through mini-escapades, long weekend getaways and back-to-back voyages for extended stays at sea”.

The cancelled *Resilient Lady* cruises included the 10-night Tasman Sea, Fjords & Maori Shores cruise on 23 Jan 2024; the 13-night NZ, Tasmania &



Melbourne voyage on 02 Feb; the nine-night Southeastern Australia & NZ voyage on 14 Feb; and the 10-night Pacific Fjords & Tasman Treasures departing 24 Feb.

New departures include a three-night Sydney, Melbourne & Burnie cruise on 19 Feb; a four-night Melbourne-Burnie getaway on 23 Jan; five nights

from Melbourne to Hobart and back on 27 Jan; and a six-night Melbourne, Sydney & Hobart cruise departing 01 Feb.

The new “sampler sailings” went on sale this morning, with Virgin noting the adjusted schedule offers more round-trip Australia voyages from Melbourne and Sydney, while still maintaining some cruises between Australia and New Zealand.

“All affected Sailors on four cruises have been contacted and our Sailor Services team are working with them to provide generous options for rebooking to sail Down Under this summer.

“Full refunds are also being offered to Sailors who unfortunately don’t have the flexibility to join other cruises, and we look forward to welcoming them back on one of our Lady Ships in the near future,” Virgin said in a statement.

F&T gurus,
finance
whizzes,
IT geeks.


We’re here for you.



Meet our National Partnership Office team



Travel Daily
SHARPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON SINGAPORE WITH TRAVEL DAILY TRAINING ACADEMY
Click here to discover

PORTHOLE

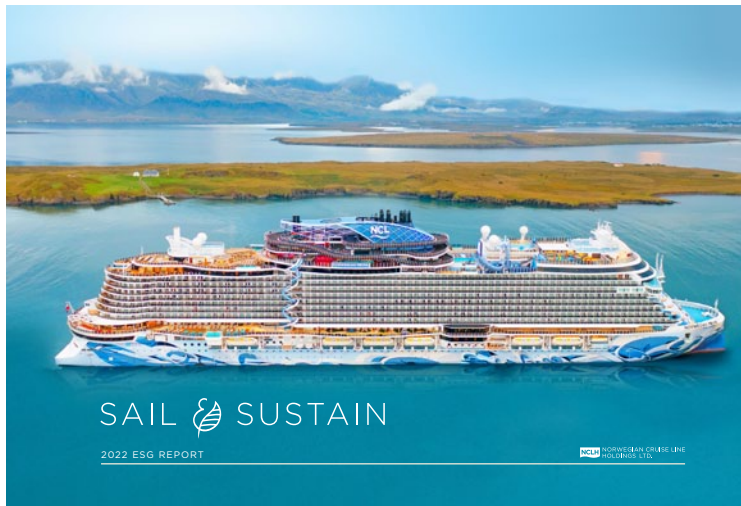
OUTGOING Qantas Chief Exec Alan Joyce has revealed some of his plans post-retirement - and they include literally sailing into the sunset.

Speaking on the sidelines of a conference in Istanbul earlier this week, Joyce confessed he doesn't yet have much planned for after he steps down in Nov - apart from a cruise in Antarctica.

"I'm going to take six months off, decompress, not make any decisions, go for a cruise around the Antarctic believe it or not - go well away from any aircraft," he said.

Joyce didn't mention whether he had actually booked yet, but with ASX releases indicating he is eligible for more than \$15 million in deferred long-term incentives, it will likely be in the owner's stateroom of whichever Antarctic operator he selects.

NCLH releases ESG report



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has published its annual environmental, social, & governance report, detailing its progress on its sustainability initiatives.

The report highlights NCLH's progress on its ESG strategy and goals, with key highlights from the past year including a revamped climate action strategy, with targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The overhauled strategy focuses on efficiency, innovation and collaboration, along with short- and near-term emissions reduction targets supporting its pursuit of net zero by 2050.

NCLH is now targeting a reduction in greenhouse gas intensity of 10% by 2026 and 25% by 2030, compared to 2019.

To shore up this goal, NCLH now has methanol-ready newbuilds on order, modifying its final two Prima-class ships, which are expected to be delivered in 2027 and 2028.

They will now accommodate

the use of green methanol as an alternative fuel source.


NCLH successfully tested small quantities of biodiesel B30 in four of its ships last year, a blend which is 70% marine gas oil and 30% biodiesel.

By the end of this year, NCLH anticipates more than 20% of its fleet will have tested and operated on biodiesel blends.

NCLH has also invested in shorepower, with 12 of the company's ships currently equipped to connect to a landside power grid.

The company continues to invest in expanding this technology and expects to have approximately 60% of its fleet shorepower-enabled by year-end, and approximately 70% by year-end 2025.

NCLH also entered into a partnership with Take 3 for the Sea last year to actively encourage team members, guests, and other stakeholders to stop plastic pollution reaching waterways (**CW** 05 Jun).



AUSTRALIAN CRUISE ASSOCIATION
ACA UPDATE
with Jill Abel - CEO

Ports in a storm

MUCH has been written recently on the location for the third Sydney cruise port with Yarra Bay being taken off the table by the new state government.

It doesn't feel like we have made much, if any, progress on this debate as year after year this issue becomes handballed and we are still without an alternative.

Brisbane added port capacity to their system when their new state-of-the-art International Terminal came online.

Ironically, based on demand, they are already looking at what their next steps might be while Sydney still languishes under the weight of indecision.

Sydney is the keystone for the nation's blue highway, but instead of shouldering the weight, the city could become the weakest link.

Looking at the problem through this lens - it becomes not just an issue for New South Wales, but for the entire country.

It is exciting to note that new cruise lines will soon be in market including Virgin Voyages, Disney Cruise Line and Scenic Luxury Tours & Cruises.

In addition, existing lines will continue to make maiden voyages to the region such as *Seabourn Pursuit* and *Celebrity Edge*.

For us to continue to service the cruise lines appropriately and act as a first-class cruise destination capable of attracting new and larger vessels each year, we must add capacity.

A decision needs to be made by this state government in this term - yes Minister, we are looking at you and again offering our help as an industry to solve this problem.

Hurtigruten EOFY sale

HURTIGRUTEN has announced up to 50% off its Norwegian Coastal Express as part of its EOFY sale.

Available for a limited time only, travellers looking to explore Norway's coastline in 2023 or 2024 can enjoy up to 50% off regular prices.

The six-day Classic Voyage South is now priced from \$1,286 per person twin share.



CRUISE WEEKLY
cruiseweekly.com.au
cruiseweekly.co.nz

Cruise Weekly is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Cruise Weekly is Australasia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

EDITORIAL
Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper
Associate Publisher – Anna Piper
Senior Associate Editor – Adam Bishop
Associate Editor – Myles Stedman
Contributors – Janie Medbury, Matthew Wai
info@cruiseweekly.com.au
info@cruiseweekly.co.nz

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING
Sean Harrigan & Nicki Harford
advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au
advertising@cruiseweekly.co.nz

BUSINESS MANAGER
Jenny Piper
accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia
Tel: (AU) +61 2 8007 6760 or (NZ) 0800 799 220
Tel: (Int'l) 1300 799 220

Every Thu we publish our consumer newsletter - **Travel & Cruise Weekly** - sign up free at www.travelandcruiseweekly.com.au.

Travel Daily
travelBulletin
business events news
Pharmacy Daily

Cruise Weekly is a publication of Cruise Weekly Pty Ltd ABN 73 123 041 485. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

NCL'S CLASS OF 2023

EXTENSION GRANTED! • 30 JUNE 2023 •

SEMESTER 1: DESTINATION ASIA

SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS TO WIN BIG



LEARN



PROMOTE



WIN

Complete 2 learn & 2 promote assignments to score up to **500 Partners First Rewards points** PLUS go in the draw to **WIN A FREE ASIA CRUISE**

JOIN THE CLASS

Conditions apply



NCL
NORWEGIAN
CRUISE LINE®
Feel Free®

YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT! QUESTIONS? EMAIL AUSCOMPS@NCL.COM